

Dr. Roger A. Nolan, U. S. Navy, advised the use of sulphur incorporated in soft soap. This he found to be a highly satisfactory method of treatment and prophylaxis of scabies. In the past 18 months over 400 cases of scabies have been treated in the Dermatological Clinic of the Ventura County Hospital with a compound containing 18 per cent precipitated sulphur in *sapo mollis*, U. S. P.

The routine is a bath with soap and warm water, followed by a complete lathering of the body with the sulphur soap, which is allowed to dry. This is repeated for three nights. The usual change of clothing and bedding before and after treatment is important.

Not one case of sulphur dermatitis has resulted and the percentage of cures with the above routine treatment is very high for the type of patient seen. While the sulphur content of the soap is 18 per cent, one ounce of it is sufficient for three applications over the adult body. This means approximately 1.8 grams of sulphur per application. The low sulphur content makes it unnecessary to decrease the concentration for children and infants.

This preparation is easy to apply and does not damage clothing. It may be used in other dermatological conditions where sulphur ointment is indicated over large areas, or as a prophylactic against parasites where sulphur is indicated.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Sulphur (18 per cent) incorporated in *sapo mollis* is more desirable than sulphur ointments in the treatment of scabies, because the ease of application and lack of unpleasantness facilitates its proper use.

2. With the use of this preparation there is an absence or decrease in incidence of sulphur dermatitis secondary to treatment.

3. This preparation is useful where sulphur is indicated over large body areas, and as prophylaxis against certain parasites.

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HIPPOCRATES' APHORISMS*

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SECTION FOUR (Continued)

16. Let people in good health
Beware of Hellebore;
It may induce convulsions
And things they will deplore.
17. Lack of appetite, heartburn and vertigo,
And a bitter taste in the mouth of the sick,
Who's free from fever, shows that he needs
An upward purge, both strong and quick.
18. Pains above the diaphragm
Call for purging upward;
And those below it,
For purging downward.

19. The sick, who don't develop
Thirst, while being drained,
Should be continued drained,
Until thirst be attained.
20. If a man without fever
Is seized with a gripe,
Pains of the loins and heaviness of the knees,
For a downward purging he is ripe.
21. Spontaneous passing of black blood-like feces,
With or without fever, is of ill import;
But, if this color does improve from drugs,
And color changes, it's a harmless sort.
22. Passed up or down,
Bile that is black
Early in illness,
Spells death, alack!
23. In persons wasted by a wound or disease,
Acute or chronic, whatever be the cause,
The passing of black bile or blood presages:
Next day the patient's life shall close.
24. If the passing of black bile shows up
At dysentery's very start,
It's a dire sign that does portend:
The sick shall from this world depart.
25. A bloody discharge upward, of any cause,
Is a sign of danger, but with black feces
And a bloody discharge downward
The fatal danger much decreases.
26. If a sick with dysentery
Is passing shreds of fleshy tissue,
It is an ominous portent
Of the approaching fatal issue.
27. If a sick with fever, no matter of what nature,
Sustains a copious hemorrhage,
It's likely he will be affected
With a flux of bowels in convalescent stage.
28. Whenever deafness supervenes,
All bilious discharges stop,
And vice versa deafness ceases
Whenever a bilious flux comes up.
29. The chills that come
On the sixth day
Develop crises
Hard to allay.
30. If in a paroxysmal illness
The daily fever spells recur
At the same hour every day,
Grave crises oft occur.
31. In the fevered sick who are oppressed
By a sense of weariness,
Deposits around joints and jaws
Develop more or less.
32. If a convalescent from a sickness
Develops pains in any part,
An infiltration or an abscess
May be suspected there to start.
33. But if the fixed pain of a part
Precedes the onset of disease,
The morbid process settles there
And strikes this part with greatest ease.

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(To be continued)

* For other aphorisms, see CALIFORNIA AND WESTERN MEDICINE, March 1940, page 125; April 1940, page 179; May 1940, page 231; July 1940, page 35; August 1940, page 85; September 1940, page 130.